5 January 1953

Memorandum of points to be considered in connection with a concurrent resolution for a Joint Committee on National Intelligence.

- 1. According to the official rules of the House of Representatives, a concurrent resolution rather than a joint resolution is the proper method for appointing a joint committee. Such a resolution is not binding on either House until agreed to by both. Since this proposed resolution would not contain a proposition of legislation, it would not need to be sent to the President for approval.
- 2. It is important to assure that the resolution provide for appointment of the Committee members by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, as otherwise they are appointed by ballot under Senate Rule 24. Members of the Senate are limited to membership on two standing committees and Members of the House to one, but a Joint Committee is not considered a Standing Committee and therefore any Congressman would be eligible for appointment.
- 3. Normally the member of Congress introducing a resolution automatically becomes chairman of the committee thereby established. Such resolutions are often co-sponsored in both Houses, and such action might go a long way in solving the problem of friendly committee members. Furthermore, it would seem preferable to have this resolution introduced both in the Senate and in the House by members of both parties. In the Senate this might be Senator Saltonstall, although he already has a heavy load as Majority Whip and Armed Services Committee Chairman, or Senator Knowland, who has had a continuing and friendly interest in this field. There are various other possibilities, but it certainly would be highly preferable to have a strong figure as Chairman. In the House, Mr. Wigglesworth might be excellent if he is not too busy, Mr. Vorys, or one of the younger representatives such as Hugh Scott or Mr. Ford of Michigan, a junior member of the Appropriations Committee, who might be able to give it more time and who seems in a position to give some continuity on the House side. Again, there are many other possibilities.

- 4. There are certain Members of Congress whom we prefer not to have on this Joint Committee such as Mr. Fred Busbey, of Illinois, who has certain strong antagonistic views to some theories applying to CIA and might well wish to get on the Committee. He is probably powerful enough to be selected if he is given the opportunity to apply. The means for handling such a situation depend on how the resolution is initiated. If initiated by the Executive Branch, it would be clearly preferable to have the incoming President call in the majority leaders and get their backing for the resolution and make appropriate arrangements for committee membership. If the resolution is to be initiated in the Congress, again the initiator should first discuss the practical details with the majority leaders prior to public discussion of the concurrent resolution.
- 5. If the Joint Committee for CIA is established, it in no way eliminates the necessity under the present practices of going before the appropriate Appropriations Subcommittee each year for funds. If funds are to be kept in the Defense Department Appropriations, this would be the Armed Services Subcommittee. One of the first tasks of the joint committee might be a study of more secure methods of providing funds for CIA, such as a general authorization to acquire funds directly from the Treasury's Bureau of the Public Debt. This would not, however, obviate review of the amounts involved by the Appropriations Committees.

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Draft 2 January 1953

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

- (a) That there is hereby established a Joint Committee on National Intelligence, to be composed of five Members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and five Members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. In each instance not more than three Members shall be members of the same political party.
- (b) The Joint Committee shall make continuing studies of the problems relating to the coordination of the intelligence activities of the several Government departments and agencies in the interest of national security. The Central Intelligence Agency shall keep the Joint Committee fully and currently informed with respect to the Central Intelligence Agency's responsibilities and functions under Section 102 of the National Security Act of 1947.

 All bills, resolutions, and other matters in the Senate or the House of Representatives relating primarily to the Central Intelligence Agency or its statutory responsibilities shall be referred to the Joint Committee. The members of the Joint Committee who are

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Members of the Senate shall from time to time report to the Senate, and the members of the Joint Committee who are Members of the House of Representatives shall from time to time report to the House, by bill or otherwise, their recommendations with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of their respective Houses which are (1) referred to the Joint Committee or (2) otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Joint Committee.

- (c) Vacancies in the membership of the Joint Committee shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the functions of the Joint Committee, and shall be filled in the same manner as in the case of the original selection. The Joint Committee shall select a chairman and a vice chairman from among its members.
- (d) The Joint Committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee thereof, is authorized to hold such hearings, to sit and act at such places and times, to require, by subpena or otherwise, the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, to administer such oaths, to take such testimony, to procure such printing and binding, and to make such expenditures as it deems advisable. The cost of stenographic services to report such hearings shall not be in excess of 25 cents

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per hundred words. The provisions of sections 102 to 104, inclusive, of the Revised Statutes shall apply in case of any failure of any witness to comply with a subpena or to testify when summoned under authority of this section.

(e) The Joint Committee is empowered to appoint and fix the compensation of such experts, consultants, technicians, and clerical and stenographic assistants as it deems necessary and advisable, but the compensation so fixed shall not exceed the compensation prescribed under the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, for comparable duties. The committee is authorized to utilize the services, information, facilities, and personnel of the departments and establishments of the Government.

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